

Dimes, American Cancer Society, the Boys & Girls Club of Truckee Meadows, Big Brothers Big Sisters, Saint Mary's Hospital, and, of course, the Reno Rodeo Association. His extraordinary charitable work in the community is admirable. For 9 of the past 13 years, Norm was voted Contractor of the Year by his peers in northern Nevada. He truly is one of the best.

Recently, Norm was honored with the privilege of leading the Reno Rodeo Parade. Having attended and supported the Reno Rodeo for over 60 years, Norm has seen and experienced many changes in the community and the rodeo itself. His company has been instrumental in updating the rodeo grounds for years. Norm's love for Nevada, community service, and the Reno Rodeo are unmatched.

Nevada's economy relies on events such as the Reno Rodeo, which celebrated its 93rd anniversary this year. Dependent upon nearly 400 volunteers from across the Truckee Meadows, the event is said to have an economic impact of \$42 million in the Reno/Sparks area. This 10-day rodeo recognizes the passions and skills of some of the world's top professional cowboys and cowgirls and their contributions to the sport of rodeo.

I admire and recognize Norm's commitment to northern Nevada. His dedication serves as a constant reminder of the importance of giving back to our communities. I am proud to stand with the residents of my home State to recognize his generosity and selflessness. Today, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring a native Nevadan for all that he does for the Silver State.●

#### 125TH ANNIVERSARY OF UNITED WAY

● Mr. JOHANNIS. Mr. President, today, on the 125th Anniversary of United Way of America, I wish to pay tribute to Nebraska's many United Way organizations. United Way is active in the communities of Beatrice, Columbus, Cozad, Crete, Fremont, Grand Island, Hastings, Kearney, Lexington, Lincoln, Nebraska City, Norfolk, North Platte, Omaha, Scottsbluff, Wayne, York, and others. The Nebraskans affiliated with these organizations work tirelessly every day to improve the lives of those around them.

For the past 125 years, United Way has mobilized resources from local businesses and individuals to identify and meet the needs of the communities they serve. Thanks to the leadership from local United Way organizations, communities in Nebraska have been better able to address significant social issues. The programs they support help those experiencing hunger, domestic violence, drug and alcohol abuse, neglect, and many more challenges. In Nebraska, the United Way provides leadership and helping hands throughout our State.

I have had the privilege of working with United Way and the agencies they

support as a county commissioner, city councilman, mayor, Governor, and now as a Member of the Senate. I have seen first hand the successes achieved by Nebraska's United Way offices, which have improved the lives of countless citizens across the State. I couldn't be more proud of their work.

It is an honor to mark this special day by acknowledging United Way offices across our State and thanking the many volunteers who contribute time, talent, and financial resources to improve Nebraska communities. I wish all of the United Way offices in Nebraska and across the Nation another 125 years of success in their mission to serve others.●

#### TRIBUTE TO RICK CRAIG

● Mr. LEE. Mr. President, today I wish to honor Rick Craig, president of America First Federal Credit Union. Rick was appointed president of the credit union in 1997, and previously served as the executive vice president for two decades. He recently announced his retirement and I wish to honor his exemplary career.

Rick is an alumnus of Weber State University, where he earned a bachelor of science degree in the field of mathematics with a minor in physics. He went on to earn a master's degree in the field of engineering from the University of Utah, and graduated in 1981 from the Western Credit Union National Association, CUNA, Management School. While in school, Rick earned the Charlie Clark Award and later was honored with the James D. Likens Alumni Recognition Award. He has also completed the Credit Union Executives Society's Directors Leadership Institute program at the London Business School. Over the years, Rick has been willing to share his knowledge with others, teaching courses at Weber State University and the Western CUNA Management School.

Rick is a past board member of the Utah League of Credit Unions, and was vice chairman of the league's Executive Committee. From 1997 to 2003, he also served on the Governor's Board of Credit Union Advisors in Utah. He served on the Filene Research Council from 1999 to 2005, and he has been a member of the CO-OP Board of Directors since 2005. He has been a director of the Credit Union Executives Society, CUES, for 9 years, serving as chairman of the board. Rick was inducted into the Credit Union Society's Hall of Fame in 1996.

Mr. Craig has received numerous honors for his work. Utah Business Magazine recognized him as one of the one hundred most influential people in the State of Utah in 2001, 2004, 2007, and 2011. He was recognized as one of the Ten Trail Blazing Companies in Utah in 2003 and in 2004, the national CUES named him Executive of the Year. Under his leadership, America First Credit Union was recognized as one of the best places to work in Utah in 2007.

Craig has written numerous articles, including articles for CUNA and CUES magazines, as well as computer world.

After 12 years as president, Rick Craig is leaving America First Credit Union on solid financial foundation. He has been successful at navigating the credit union through very turbulent financial times.

Although Rick Craig has achieved great success in business, his greatest success has been being the father of 10 wonderful children. It is my wish that he and Karen enjoy this new chapter in their lives.●

#### REMEMBERING JUDGE ROBERT C. BOOCHEVER

● Ms. MURKOWSKI. Mr. President, next week the Juneau community will come together to honor the late Judge Robert C. Boochever, who passed away on October 9, 2011. At the time of his passing, Judge Boochever was a senior judge of the Ninth Circuit, U.S. Court of Appeals. Since Alaska was admitted to statehood, only three Alaskans have served on that court. Judge Boochever was the first of the three.

Judge Boochever was not born in Alaska, but he earned the right to be called an Alaskan through decades of service, on and off the bench, to our community. Robert C. Boochever was born in New York City on October 2, 1917, and grew up in Ithaca, the home of Cornell University where his father was director of public relations. He completed his undergraduate work and law degree at Cornell, then enlisted in the Army. Deployed to Newfoundland as a legal officer, he met Connie Maddox, who was the chief surgical nurse for the base. They were married in April 1943.

At the end of the war, a long-time family friend from Cornell, Warren Caro, who had been an aide to Alaska's territorial Governor, Ernest Gruening, told Judge Boochever about a job in Juneau. It was an assistant U.S. attorney position, but at the time there was no U.S. attorney, so Boochever would in fact be running the operation. At the time, Judge Boochever knew nothing of Alaska or Juneau other than the praises sung by his family friend, Warren Caro. But that didn't stop him from asking Alaska's delegate to Congress, Bob Bartlett, for a recommendation. Once offered the job, he persuaded Connie to give Alaska a try and they never looked back.

In 1947, Boochever joined the Faulkner Banfield law office in Juneau and soon was made a named partner. He built the Faulkner Banfield firm, which dates back to 1914, into one of Alaska's great law firms. That firm continues to operate today as Faulkner Banfield in Juneau and Holmes, Weddle and Barcott with offices in Anchorage, Seattle, Portland and San Diego. Mike Holmes, one of his partners, described Boochever as "the best trial lawyer in the State." He served as president of both the Alaska and Juneau Bar Associations.